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THE EARLY CLOSING MEASURE.

Tuesday night, after a good deal of discussion, the Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance for the better regulation of the saloon traffic in the city of Newport News. It is, with a few minor changes, the same as the ordinance passed by the Common Council a short time ago. The amendments probably will be accepted by the lower branch, and, with the mayor's signature, the measure will become a law.

The passage of such an ordinance indicates that there has been a marked change in sentiment in Newport News in recent years. Few persons who came here in the early nineties, or even about the time the city was incorporated, when "Bar Harbor" and "Rocketts" were "wide open," would have predicted that within ten years the saloons then running an average of about 168 hours per week would be closed on Sundays and six hours during the week days. The prospect of such a change would have been designated as an "iridescent dream" of the "reformers."

Those persons who are back of the movement to regulate the saloons have no reason for discouragement. Twelve months ago such a measure as that which was passed would have been treated as a joke. If the ordinance is fairly enforced, and we have no doubt but that it will be, it can soon be seen whether "regulation" furnishes the real solution of the problem, and just here we would suggest that it is to the interest of the liquor dealers themselves to voluntarily abide by the provisions of the new law, if they really wish to disarm one of the strongest criticisms brought against the traffic in which they are engaged, and which many persons of undoubted intelligence and patriotism are seeking to outlaw. If all the saloons of Newport News would voluntarily obey the provisions of the State law prohibiting Sunday selling and sale to minors, there would today be less objection to the traffic.

One feature of the ordinance originally passed by the Board of Aldermen and stricken out of the measure passed Tuesday night, should have remained. That was the provision making it lawful for a police officer to enter a saloon when, in his judgment, the exigencies of the case demanded such action. Of course, it is argued that some policemen are addicted to the habit of drinking and that such a law would give them an excuse to go into a saloon for a drink. The records of the police department will show that under the present system policemen have been suspended and dismissed from the force for being drunk while on duty, and no one is so unsophisticated as to believe that the policemen who really wish to get a drink are prevented from entering a saloon because of the existence of a rule prohibiting such action.

Besides it is hardly a logical proposition that the police force should contain men who cannot be trusted to go anywhere that duty calls them to go. While we have no idea that the City Fathers intended it that way, it is inevitable that those who are unversed in the intricacies of the law will have a suspicion that the provision was stricken from the ordinance in order to handicap policemen in securing evidence of crooked work going on behind the screens. We can see no reason why an orderly saloon should object

to the visits of a policeman, nor can we see any reason why a policeman should be contaminated by the atmosphere of a "legitimate business institution," unless he be one of those guardians of the peace who needs the chaperonage of the mayor, the chief of police or one of the police commissioners. While the experiment was being tried it should not have been marred in the beginning by this very illogical bit of action.

MASSACHUSETTS AND TARIFF.

Governor William L. Douglass, of Massachusetts, seems inclined to stir up the animals in the tariff cage. When Massachusetts had a practical monopoly in the manufacture of shoes and of cotton goods and the tariff permitted the Bay State "captains of industry" to levy tribute upon the South and West, the Democratic doctrine in regard to the tariff was unpopular. Since then there has been a decided change, and Senator Lodge, during the last Presidential campaign, had a strenuous time "squaring" his stand-pat policy with his Massachusetts constituents.

Therefore, it is not at all surprising that the proposition of Governor Douglass to investigate the tariff should be received without particular protest, for in his message to the Legislature he makes a strong case when he says: "Because of her isolated condition as to materials and food supplies, Massachusetts feels the burden of tariff taxes more than most other States. Against these taxes she is now vigorously protesting. The situation in Massachusetts is also peculiar because of her great extent of sea coast and her numerous harbors, making it cheaper to bring in imported goods than it is to transport them from the Central and Western States. Naturally, then, she would draw on Canada and other foreign countries for many of her materials and supplies."

In other words, the South is becoming an effective competitor of Massachusetts in the manufacture of cotton. The South and West are beginning to make their own shoes, and the old Bay State immediately discovers her "splendid isolation," and wants to adopt a policy which she persistently has fought against as applied to other States. All of which shows that General Hancock was not far wrong when he declared that the tariff was largely a local issue. It would be a remarkable reversion of conditions if the South should veer to protection and New England should take a stand for free trade.

HOW TO PRESERVE THE FORESTS

President Roosevelt stated the case exactly when he said that it is the attitude of the industries of the country that will determine whether or not our forests are to be preserved. They must be persuaded that it is to their immediate interests to aid in preserving the forest. It should not be a difficult matter to convince the great corporations of the country that their interests lie in a proper preservation of the forests of the country. The railroads, for instance, are the greatest users of timber in the country. They use it, too, for a purpose for which no practicable substitute yet has been found. A few years of the present profligacy will result in a lumber famine which will force the railways to secure something besides timber for ties. Thus it would seem that the most powerful of the corporate interests of the country would naturally align themselves with those persons who believe that the forest wealth of the country should be protected and used for the best interests of the present and of future generations. Have the forestry enthusiasts of the country made an effort to bring certain obvious facts more particularly to the attention of railway magnates who are interested in the sources of future timber supplies? If not, the "resolution" stage of the fight has not been reached.

SITUATION AT V. P. I.

Conditions at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in connection with the junior class squabble, do not seem to be as satisfactory as might be desired. While the faculty professes to be satisfied with the outlook, a member of the senior class is quoted as saying that fully one-third of the reinstated juniors had gone home. He said he could give their names if desired. He said that a number had been refused admittance because their application was not satisfactory to the faculty; others because of an excess of demerits against them. He said there was general dissatisfaction among the juniors for several reasons. They felt that Tinsley had been treated unjustly, as he merely expressed the wishes of the class, and many were determined to stand by him. They understood, too, that the conference of the faculty and committee, just before the holidays, that all who acknowledged they acted under a misunderstanding and applied for admission, would be admitted again. They claim that this has not been done; moreover, all who returned have been put on strict probation, and required to sign a paper disavowing the act of the class.

The statements of this senior bears out the statement signed by the local members of the junior class and indicates a condition of affairs at the V. P. I. which should be rigidly investigated

If the State is to continue its appropriation to that institution. The exigencies of reasonable discipline do not demand cringing hypocrisy on the part of the dismissed cadets, and in demanding conditions synonymous with that despicable trait of character, the faculty manifests its unfitness to train the youth of the Old Dominion.

As it is the custom for the Czar to assume credit for the victories of the Russian generals, Nicholas should be court-martialed with Gen. Stoessel for suffering the loss of Port Arthur.

But for the fact that he is a teetotaler, the electoral college speech of State Senator Barksdale might have been erroneously attributed to mixed ale.

The burning of cotton in Georgia for the purpose of diminishing the visible supply appears to be ninety-nine parts bluff to one part blaze.

Esopus may now bid farewell to the last vestige of its greatness. The railroad station has been removed.

If the cotton growers really desired to destroy the product of their lands they would burn the imported Gutemalan ant.

A Tampa, Fla., girl who was wooed by mail refused to be won when she saw the male.

Both Mr. Taggart and Mr. Bryan omitted in their speeches before the Jackson Club to say that the actual "crying need" of the Democratic party is more followers and fewer leaders.

The poker room is the exclusive game of the police these days.

CURRENT COMMENT.

United States and Morocco.
Now that Morocco is coming formally under the suzerainty of France her internal condition will improve and she will take a larger place in the world's commerce. Her 5,000,000 people will be bigger producers, as well as consumers, than they have been. As a market for cotton fabrics Morocco ought to have a prominent place. Our cotton goods exporters may be relied on to seize the chances which the increased stability of that country will bring. The French connection will not erect a trade barrier against us, or against any of the rest of the world. Our chances will be improved rather than diminished by France's overlordship. A United States mission in Morocco is one of the needs of the time. Secretary Hay's suggestion to send a minister to Sultan Mul-Abel-Aziz's capital ought to receive the favorable and the immediate attention of Congress.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Pity the Poor Czar!

One cannot help feeling intense pity for this poor manikin who sits trembling on the throne of the great Peter. It is not his fault that he is a Czar, and it is not his fault that his people are down-trodden, disloyal and rebellious; neither is it his fault that the rescript which is issued in his name contains no ray of hope for the future. He is merely the puppet moving his arms, his legs and his head at the will of the grand dukes who pull the strings behind the throne. Even if he were to assert himself now, we believe that, as has so often been the case before, he would be suppressed by his rulers without mercy. It is a pitiful spectacle. More, it is a tragedy, for although the man may be willing himself, he is bound and gagged, and perhaps more a serf than the meanest moujik in the whole of his vast empire.—London Express.

Russian Reforms.

Prince Hilko's view of the Czar's reform ukase expresses the thought of moderate people throughout the world. It is premature, he holds, to raise the question of constitutionalism; foolish, then, for the liberals to reject such large concessions as are now offered. Reform, he insists, will be best achieved by looking to pressing abuses first, leaving matters of political theory for their own time. Very welcome, too, is his assurance that the reform articles offered by the Czar are meant in absolute good faith. These words, from one of the sanest administrators of the empire, should reassure those who take too gloomy a view of the Russian internal situation.—New York Post.

Companions of the Whipping Post.

The whipping post does not stand alone on the horizon of the dark ages. With it loom in ugly outline the pillory and the stocks, the ducking stool and the bilboes, the rack and the wheel, the thumb-screw and the fagot-surrounded stake. Any mention of the lash as a possible modern corrective for evil deeds of any grade is certain to bring visions of the whole gruesome array of cruel and unusual punishments, the instruments of torture and the crude devices for public exposure and humiliating suffering. The entire group stands together and cannot be separated into its component parts.—Washington Star.

Non-Resident Judges.

With any one of the resident justices now on the Appellate Division bench off for his two weeks, and with his place taken by one of the up-State justices recently appointed by the governor, the court will be, as a majority, non-resident. This is in violation of the Constitution and of the statute.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Ohio Courts and Banks.

Mrs. Chadwick promises to issue a statement that will prove her innocence and set her free. Mrs. Chadwick shouldn't make the mistake of thinking the courts are as easy as the Ohio bankers.—Kansas City Journal.

Daily Press, Ten Cents a Week.

PREYER'S PREDICAMENT.

A Ludicrous Incident in the Life of the Famous Painter.

John W. Preyer, the famous painter of still life, was a remarkably small specimen of the genus homo, differing, however, from ordinary dwarfs in the symmetry and exact proportion of all the parts of his diminutive frame. When between twenty and thirty years of age his fresh, ruddy and beardless face and the shrill and boyish tone of his voice caused people to take him for a child of about eight at the most. This illusion was still further heightened by his dress, a short black velvet jacket with a large turn-down collar, over which his smoothly parted hair hung in thick clusters. When about this age Preyer paid a visit to Munich in order to inspect the art treasures in that city and also to visit his old patron, Master Cornelius, a former president of the Dusseldorf academy. When Preyer called at the house of the latter he had gone out, and the servant who had answered the door ran to tell her mistress that a little boy was waiting outside to see the master. The lady went to speak to the visitor.

"What is it you want, my child?" she asked the painter, who at the approach of the lady took off his velvet cap and made a deep bow, saying in a shrill voice:

"I wish to speak to Mr. Cornelius."

"He is not at home at present, but if you will step inside you can wait for him. He will not be long."

So saying, she took the little fellow into the parlor and offered him a stool to sit on. In a short time the fair hostess became quite charmed with her youthful visitor, and at last she lifted him on her lap and listened with intense delight to the innocent prattle of the clever "child." Suddenly the door opened, and Cornelius himself appeared. Taking in the situation at a glance, he cried:

"Ah, good morning, Mr. Preyer. How on earth did you get here?"

"Mr. Preyer!" And with a shriek Mrs. Cornelius jumped up, tumbled Preyer on the floor and fled into the next room, while Cornelius and Preyer, after the latter had picked himself up again, laughed till the tears streamed down their cheeks. The former had some difficulty in getting his wife to come back again. At last she mustered sufficient courage to allow herself to be formally introduced to the strange visitor, who was retained as a guest to dinner, over which the available hostess presently regained her former self possession.

Mistakes in Stamps.

By a simple error in the printing of a set of stamps the value is enormously increased to collectors. A short time ago a Dutch stamp was printed yellow instead of blue. A week later these stamps were sold at a great premium. A New Zealand stamp some years ago was printed upside down, and it is now worth a large sum. Among English stamps the old red penny, with the plate No. 255, is valued by collectors, and the small pink halfpenny, with plate No. 9, is not worth less than \$20. It is said that the plate of the latter was broken soon after it came into use and was never replaced; hence the value of the few stamps printed from it. It is always a question with amateurs whether to buy their stamps used or unused. But it is safe on a great occasion, such as a jubilee or exposition year, to buy them with the postmark.

To Work Is Honorable.

There has existed and still exists to some extent a false sentiment that labor is degrading or belittling. The contrary is true. An ideal condition of society can come only when every member of it recognizes that he is bound to exercise whatever skill or strength or faculty he possesses to its full capacity not selfishly or for the sake of gain merely, but for his own happiness and development and for the benefit of all. And there should be no restriction on any one, either legal or social or through association, in regard to his labor or its fruits. If by patient application or natural endowment a man possesses more skill than his fellow or if he chooses to be more industrious he is entitled to the full benefit of it.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A Wonderful Memory.

Some years ago there was a strolling player at Edinburgh of the name of William Lyon, who had a most astonishing memory. He one evening made a bet of a bowl of punch that he would at the rehearsal next morning repeat the whole of the Daily Advertiser from beginning to end. Being called on the next day, he handed the newspaper to a gentleman present to see that he repeated every word correctly. This task he accomplished without making the slightest error, through all the varieties of advertisements, price of stocks, accidents, etc.

Nothing Doing.

"Dear," said the poet's wife, noticing his abstracted look, "you are worried about something."

"Well—er—yes," replied the poet.

"Tell me. What have you on your mind?"

"Nothing. That's what worries me."

—Exchange.

Prediction Fulfilled.

Farmer Whiffletree—Bill Perkins' son Dan has got a political job. Farmer Medders—Gosh, I ailers said that feller 'd grow up ter be a loafer!—Puck.

Helping the Cook.

Boarding Mistress—What are those boarders grumbling about now? Servant—They're roasting the beef.—New York Press.

Shin has many tools, but a lie is the handle which fits them all.—Holmes.

A WINNING SCHEME.

The Power of Timid Beauty to Disarm Wrathful Shoppers.

A woman whose stern visage spelled trouble, says the Philadelphia Record, stepped up to the complaint desk in a big store. Back of the desk was a timid miss—one of those Dresden doll girls who never seem to lose their baby ways—and at the sight of the wrathful shopper she seemed to shrink a bit, while into her wide blue eyes came what the poets would style the look of a startled fawn. The indignant customer began a tirade about some mistake that had been made in connection with a purchase, but her anger disappeared when she saw how much the shopgirl seemed to take the matter to heart. Finally, after calmly explaining the fault, she went away smiling. "It's a great scheme," remarked the observant manager with the air of a man bestowing bonuses on himself. "You see, in every large business establishment there are bound to be mistakes occurring all the time. When customers come back and kick about errors they are usually in an unreasonable frame of mind. If there was a man back of the complaint desk or a strong-minded woman, we'd have all kinds of trouble smoothing out the kinks, because the customers would keep their fighting mood on when they encountered somebody who looked able to take care of himself. But to go up against a pretty, timid girl disarms them, and in a minute they are cool and ready to talk over the situation peaceably. The men kickers could not raise a row with a handsome girl, and the women—well, their motherly instincts are touched and they become good humored."

ABUSE OF HOSPITALITY.

The Way It Was Rebuked by an Oriental Philosopher.

"Hospitality is an excellent thing," said the story teller, "but it is open to abuse. Let me tell you how the oriental hospitality of Nasr Eddin, a great man of the east, was abused many years ago."

"From a distant village a poor man came to Nasr Eddin and made him a present of a hare. Nasr Eddin was delighted with his gift. The poor man on the strength of it stayed with him a month."

"A short time after a stranger came with his entire family to Nasr Eddin's house."

"We," the stranger explained, "are friends of the man who gave you the hare."

"Nasr Eddin welcomed the visitors warmly, and they stayed two weeks."

"They had not been gone long when another family of strangers arrived."

"Whom have I the honor to receive?" said Nasr Eddin.

"Friends of the friends of the man who gave you the hare," was the reply.

"Nasr Eddin looked grave. He did not invite these guests indoors. He served them on the lawn with cups of some clear fluid. Tasting this fluid, they made wry faces, for it was nothing but warm water."

"What is this you offer us, oh, Nasr Eddin?" the strangers said reproachfully.

"The host replied: 'Oh, that is the sauce of the sauce of the hare.'"

Moving Pictures and Seasickness.

Successive pictures have been taken at intervals during an ocean voyage to show the life aboard ship, the swing of the great seas and the rolling and pitching of the steamer. The heave and swing of the steamer and the mountainous waves have been so realistically shown on the screen in the theater that some squeamish spectators have been made almost seasick. It might be comforting to those who were made unhappy by the sight of the heaving seas to know that the operator who took one series of sea pictures, when lashed with his machine in the lookout place on the foremast of the steamer, suffered terribly from seasickness and would have been glad enough to set his foot on solid ground; nevertheless he stuck to his post and completed the series.—From "Stories of Inventors," by Russell Doubleday.

Landseer's Witty Comment.

Several years ago a London Hebrew, Abraham Solomon, painted a stirring picture, "Waiting For the Verdict," which was exhibited at the Royal academy. The artist, not being a Royal academician, entitled to annex R. A. to his name, had his painting "skied." All the pictures contributed by that august fraternity were, as usual, hung on the line. Thomas Landseer was in ecstasies as he beheld the thrilling scene depicted on the canvas and exclaimed, "There is Solomon in all his glory, but not R. A.'d like one of these!"

The Grunting Ox.

One of the largest of the mammals of Tibet is the yak, or grunting ox. Standing between five and six feet high at the shoulders, the bulk of this strange looking creature is not a little exaggerated by the enormous growth of hair upon the lower part of the body and tail. Beneath the outer coat, moreover, there is a layer of wool known as pashu, which is highly prized for the making of cloth.

True Friendship.

Harold—My trusted and bosom friend, Jack Armstrong, has cut me out in the affections of Dolly Giddy-gurl. What do you think of that? Jerrold—Why, I think that's the kind of a friend to have, old chap.—Puck.

Skinny.

"She said I was a regular Venus de Milo."

"Yes; she told me that you had just no arms at all."—Houston Post.



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"To The Common Stockholders of the Jamestown Exposition Company:

The annual meeting of the stockholders, for the purpose of electing directors and the performance of such other duties as may properly come before the meeting, will be held at the Atlantic Hotel, Norfolk, Virginia, Tuesday, January 17th, 1905, at 4:00 o'clock p. m.

G. T. SHEPPERD, Sec'y.

NATURE SPARES

The Stricken Rose From Grief.

What a fortunate provision of nature it is, that deprives the rose of mental suffering; for how poignant would be its grief to discover, in the height of its blooming glory, that a canker fed at its heart, and that its beauty and fragrance were doomed forever. Nature always spares the suffering; she is a veritable store-house of pleasing rewards, for those who seek her aid. In the years gone by falling hair and grayness have cast a gloom over the lives of thousands of young women, but thanks to the investigations of scientists the true cause of half destruction is now known to be a germ or parasite that burrows into the hair follicles. Newbro's Herpicide absolutely destroys this germ, thus permitting the hair to grow as nature intended. Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c. in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich.

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